

ARC920010020US1
09/844,916REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Examiner's Office Action dated 6/19/2003. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the remarks that follow.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-22 are pending.

Claims 1-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 5-9, and 13-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishikawa (US Patent 5,812,863).

OVERVIEW OF CLAIMED INVENTION AND PRIOR ART REJECTION

The presently claimed invention assists in proper data entry formatting (such as in web addresses, URLs, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers) and the completion of forms and documents (such as in billing or ordering forms). Upon identification of these or other data input that is identified to correlate with pre-stored information, a specific sound pattern is chosen and reproduced to a user to indicate the correlation. For example, the program may relate a sound pattern of three audible chimes to the completion of a user's address and phone number in an ordering form. As the user begins to input data into the form, the program recognizes and develops a correlation between the data being input and the pre-stored data. Therefore, the processing element chooses the sound pattern of the three audible chimes and reproduces the

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chimes through the sound device to indicate to the user that the pre-stored information is available should the user choose to select the information for substitution.

The presently claimed invention is a computer-based program using sound pattern feedback to aid in the completion or correction of typographic and/or formatting events. Upon recognition of a correlation, or "event," a sound pattern is selected by the program to indicate to the user that a particular correlation has been found or that an event has occurred. Since a different sound pattern is applied to each recognized correlation/event, the user can distinguish and recognize the exact correlation or event noted by the system, allowing the user to decide to disrupt work or continue without interruption. The program can also make a suggestion such as an automatic entry or another suggestion such as a correction that can be optionally selected by a user for substitution of the data being input based upon the correlation or event.

The Ishikawa reference used in the rejections as a prior art example does not disclose the use of sound pattern feedback upon recognition of any of the above correlations or events.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 and 9 were objected to as they unclearly stated as to what "said data input" and "said prestored input" were referring to. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to correctly identify antecedent basis. In addition, support for "said data inputs" and "said prestored inputs" can be found on page 7, lines 4-16; page 10, lines 15-22; page 11, lines 10-17; and page 12, lines 8-17 of the original specification.

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Claims 6 and 18 were objected because the phrase "such as" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. Claims 6 and 18 have been amended to correctly and definitely identify the limitations being claimed.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The examiner has rejected claims 1, 5-9, and 13-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,812,863 (Ishikawa), hereafter Ishikawa. The Ishikawa reference forms the base of each of the rejections. Ishikawa is a mistaken word processing apparatus that is used to consider misspellings caused by the use of different sounds used to pronounce the same character in a different language. It recognizes the existence of a sound which can not easily be recognized by someone whose mother tongue is different that the language used in preparing a document. It also recognizes different sounds used to pronounce the same phonogram in the mother tongue of the operator. Ishikawa can then notify the user of a detected word that may be spelled incorrectly.

The examiner has correlated the word "sound" used in Ishikawa with the term "sound" used throughout the claims of the present invention to represent an audible tone that is produced from a sound device. Rather, the term "sound" as used in Ishikawa is a phonetic pronunciation of a word that is created while speaking (see column 4, lines 21-25 and lines 53-67; column 5, lines 1-4). The reproduction of an "audible sound" or pattern to alert a user during the use of a program is not provided nor suggested. Ishikawa also does not provide nor suggest the use of any audible sound device. The examiner is specifically directed to figures 1-16B in Ishikawa where no audible output is shown, and the corresponding specification where no audible output is described or suggested. Therefore, Ishikawa can not provide the "sound" output as required by

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the claims, nor could it have been obvious to have modified Ishikawa to produce the "sound" using a sound device.

Further, Ishikawa does not assist in reproducing sound pattern feedback that assists in proper data entry formatting or the completion of forms and documents.

The examiner has rejected claims 2-4 and 10-12 as being unpatentable over Ishikawa in view of U.S. patent 6,490,563 (Hon), hereafter Hon. As previously mentioned, Ishikawa does not explicitly disclose the use of a sound pattern feedback device. Ishikawa also does not suggest the use of a sound device. Further, Ishikawa does not explicitly disclose the use of rules-based logic comprising one or more of: language formatting, syntactical and grammatical rules, or punctuation rules. Hon, in combination with Ishikawa, does not, however, provide the advantages achieved by the present invention.

Hon discloses a computer implemented system and method that receives input text. Hon then converts the input text into an audio signal when detected, and an audio signal is played through a speaker. Hon does not provide the advantage of selecting a specific sound pattern for a specific correlation or event so that a user may identify the specific correlation or event. In addition, Hon does not specifically provide the advantage of the present invention of particularly identifying a specific correlation or event with a specific sound pattern.

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SUMMARY

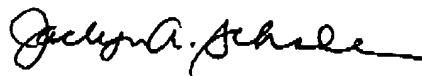
Ishikawa does not individually or in combination explicitly disclose that wherein upon recognition of a correlation, the processing element selects a specific sound pattern representative of said event, and a sound source that is used to reproduce the specific sound pattern. More specifically, the use of any type of audible sound or sound device is not disclosed in Ishikawa. Further, there is no suggestion or motivation provided within Ishikawa to modify the program design to select a sound pattern for feedback to a user using a sound device, as provided by applicant's claimed invention.

As has been detailed above, none of the references, cited or applied, provide for the specific claimed details of applicant's presently claimed invention, nor renders them obvious. It is believed that this case is in condition for allowance and reconsideration thereof and early issuance is respectfully requested.

As this amendment has been timely filed within the set period of response, no petition for extension of time or associated fee is required. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the fees provided to Deposit Account No. 12-0010.

If it is felt that an interview would expedite prosecution of this application, please do not hesitate to contact applicant's representative at the below number.

Respectfully submitted,



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